GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND RURAL AND AGRO INDUSTR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3694
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
IMPACT OF WTO
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND RURAL AND AGRO INDUSTR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have analysed the impact of WTO Treaty on agro and rural industries in India during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken to protect the agro and rural industries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGF RURAL INDUSTRIES (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) & (b): Government is constantly monitoring the impact of the WTO Agreements on the economy including the agro & rural industries in the country. The removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) have exposed the SSIs to greater competition. Even after the removal of QRs, protection to the industries is available in the form of raising customs duties upto the bound levels, imposing anti-dumping duties and countervailing duties, taking safeguards measures in case of surge in imports, etc.

(c): The Government has put in place several measures to help our industries become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management practices, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications to face the emerging challenges of trade liberlisation.